

November 7, 1951

Dr. C. E. Clifton  
Department of Bacteriology  
Stanford University  
California.

Dear Dr. Clifton:

Thank you for sending the 20 additional *E. coli* cultures in your "K" series. They have just been subjected to preliminary tests for crossability with K-12. Two of them, K-130 and K-201 appear to give a rather definite positive result; K-93 may also, but the initial test was ambiguous. If you can give me any further information on the history of these cultures, I would appreciate it.

In asking for additional cultures from you, I was aware of the possibility that K-12 might turn up again. However, none of the cultures of this set is likely to be especially close to K-12, for none of them proved to be lysogenic on an indicator which reacts to K-12. If I am wrong about this, I'd be glad to hear about it.

The proportion of inter-fertility in this series is rather higher than our general experience. However, most of the fertile strains have come from human sources, either fecal or pathological, although they have shown no other striking feature in common.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg